

and myself in recognizing Foster Farms for 75 successful years in business.

COMMENDING THE HONORABLE  
TONY A. DEBRUM OF THE REPUB-  
LIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2014*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend my good friend, the Honorable Tony A. deBrum, who has served the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with distinction and honor as Senator, Minister in Assistance to the President (Vice-President), Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Health and Environment, and in other notable capacities.

Senator Tony deBrum was born in 1945 and grew up on Likiep atoll at the height of the U.S. nuclear testing program in the RMI. From 1946–1958, the U.S. exploded 67 nuclear bombs in the Marshall Islands and, in 1954, detonated the Bravo shot on Bikini atoll. Acknowledged as the greatest nuclear explosion ever detonated, the Bravo shot vaporized 6 islands and created a mushroom cloud 25 miles in diameter.

In his own words, the Honorable Tony deBrum, states:

I am a nuclear witness and my memories from Likiep atoll in the northern Marshalls are strong. I lived there as a young boy for the entire 12 years of the nuclear testing program, and when I was 9 years old, I remember vividly the white flash of the Bravo detonation on Bikini atoll, 6 decades ago in 1954, and one thousand times more powerful than Hiroshima—an event that truly shocked the international community into action.

It was in the morning, and my grandfather and I were out fishing. He was throwing net and I was carrying a basket behind him when Bravo went off. Unlike previous ones, Bravo went off with a very bright flash, almost a blinding flash; bear in mind we are almost 200 miles away from ground zero. No sound, just a flash and then a force, the shock wave. I like to describe it as if you are under a glass bowl and someone poured blood over it. Everything turned red: sky, the ocean, the fish, and my grandfather's net.

People in Rongelap nowadays claim they saw the sun rising from the West. I saw the sun rising from the middle of the sky, I mean I don't even know what direction it came from but it just covered it, it was really scary. We lived in thatch houses at that time, my grandfather and I had our own thatch house and every gecko and animal that lived in the thatch fell dead not more than a couple of days after. The military came in, sent boats ashore to run us through Geiger counters and other stuff; everybody in the village was required to go through that.

Shaped by what he witnessed, Tony deBrum determined to become an activist.

I think that's the point that my brain was taught that. I did not consciously say at the time, I am going to now be a crusader. Just a few weeks after that, my grandfather and I went to Kwajalein, where they had evacuated the people of Rongelap, where they were staying in big large green tents being treated for their nuclear burns and exposure. All the while, incidentally, the United States government was announcing that everything

was OK, that there was nothing to be worried about.

Unconvinced, Tony deBrum not only became one of the first Marshall Islanders to graduate from college but he worked for 17 years to negotiate his country's independence from the United States. As an eyewitness to nuclear explosions, he also became one of the world's leading advocates for nuclear disarmament calling upon the parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to stop the spread of nuclear weapons and pursue the peace and security of a world without them. In 2012, Tony deBrum was awarded the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Distinguished Peace Leadership Award. Previous recipients include Archbishop Desmond Tutu, His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama, King Hussein of Jordan, and Jacques Cousteau.

In April 2014, the Republic of the Marshall Islands filed the Nuclear Zero Lawsuits—unprecedented lawsuits against all nine countries that possess nuclear weapons for their failure to negotiate in good faith for nuclear disarmament as required by the NPT. The landmark cases signed by RMI Foreign Minister Tony deBrum are now pending before the International Court of Justice in The Hague and the U.S. Federal District Court in San Francisco. As a Pacific Islander and as the Ranking Member of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I applaud the RMI and especially Tony deBrum for taking a stand against the nuclear weapon giants. “No nation should ever suffer as we have,” Foreign Minister Tony deBrum has stated, and I agree.

I also agree that we should spur greater commitments in international climate change negotiations, and I commend Foreign Minister Tony deBrum for galvanizing more urgent and concrete action on climate change. As an architect of the Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership, Foreign Minister Tony deBrum has been unrelenting in vocalizing his concerns. In 2013, he addressed the United Nations Security Council on the threat posed by climate change to the long-term viability and survival of the Marshall Islands. During climate talks at the United Nations, he stated that “we are not just trying to save our islands, we are trying to save the entire world.”

I declare my sincere and heartfelt commitment to a nuclear-free world and a world committed to putting climate at the top of its diplomatic agenda. In so doing, I honor Tony deBrum as a leader, activist, friend and brother by placing his name and work in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for historical purposes.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 PRINCE  
WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD  
RECIPIENTS FROM THE CITY OF  
MANASSAS POLICE DEPART-  
MENT

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2014*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 25 individuals, one investigative team, and one Operational Task Force in a variety of categories including, the Silver or Bronze Valor Award, the Merit Valor Award, and the Investigative Merit Award.

Two members of the City of Manassas Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2014 Merit Valor Award: Officer Trey Cram and Police Officer First Class Brett Stumpf.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2014 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who served in the City of Manassas Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of citizens of Prince William County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

A TRIBUTE TO ANDREW JOON-HAO  
TAN FOR HIS WINNING ESSAY  
DEMOCRACY: COHESION BE-  
TWEEN PEOPLE AND GOVERN-  
MENT

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2014*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrew Joon-hao Tan, a student at La Entrada Middle School in Menlo Park, California, for his First Place Award in the 2013 Making Democracy Work Student Essay Contest held by the United States Capitol Historical Society. His extraordinary essay, entitled Democracy: Cohesion Between People and Government, follows.

“What political power could ever carry on the vast multitude of lesser undertakings which the American citizens perform every day, with the assistance of the principle of association,” wrote French philosopher Alexis de Tocqueville when he visited the United States to observe American government. Tocqueville evaluates the American governance and decides that for democracy to be effective in America, citizens and organizations must actively participate in the government. After the American Revolution, representatives from each state met together to write the Constitution, an American standard for how democracy would function. Recently, however, the government has been less productive than in the past. Some have begun to question if democracy can remain an effective form of government in the current era. Democracy has the potential to be a flourishing style of government, but is predicated on the protection of individuals' rights and liberties, people's access to education and information, and actively participating citizens, all of which, they claim, are resting on shaky grounds.

First and foremost, individual liberties must be guaranteed to everyone in a democracy. This provides protection to minority groups whose rights may otherwise be construed upon. Civil liberties can be encroached upon during times of national crises. A recent example of this is the Patriot